

## The Colour of Oil

The colour of motor oil depends on base oils and additives. For example the LIQUI MOLY MoS<sub>2</sub> Leichtlauf 10W-40 contains molybdenum disulphide. That is a graphite like solid lubricant that reduces friction in the motor and shows very good emergency lubrication properties. Molybdenum disulphide looks anthracite and thus the oil by nature has a dark colour. Here it is the dark colour which indicates the high performance of the oil.

So colour alone helps not much in judging oil quality. Light-coloured oil is neither better nor worse than dark-coloured oil. A blue car does not run faster than a red one – not the colour does matter but what is under the hood.

The dark colour of used oil stems from abrasion particles, ash and combustion residues. In addition oil is aging in the engine. Even very dark new motor oil can be distinguished easily from used oil.

|                     | new motor oil | used oil |
|---------------------|---------------|----------|
| <b>colour</b>       | may be dark   | black    |
| <b>transparency</b> | clear         | unclear  |
| <b>smell</b>        | oily          | burnt    |

